

DEATH PENALTY **ACTION**

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Will Oklahoma Kill An Innocent Man Today?

Group Travels to Protest at Executions in MS, OK This Week

McAlester, OK - The Death Penalty Action crew arrived at McAlester, Oklahoma overnight, assembling at Ground Zero for America's death penalty [today](#) as the world watches to see whether Oklahoma will kill a man when there is so much doubt about his guilt.

"We believe [#JuliusJones](#) is innocent, but even the most staunch supporters of capital punishment must be questioning it [today](#)," said Abraham Bonowitz, executive director of the national group. "Who among us is willing to be the innocent person executed? It is time to end the death penalty."

The group traveled overnight from Parchman, Mississippi, where last night they supported Mississippi protesters outside the notorious Parchman Farm, which is under investigation by the Department of Justice for its atrocious prison conditions - conditions which helped spur David Cox to waive his appeals and be executed last night.

Death Penalty Action leaders have returned to Oklahoma to be present outside the prison should [today's](#) planned execution of Julius Jones go forward. Death Penalty Action is a strong participant in the coalition assembled around that infamous case which is garnering worldwide attention due to Jones' strong evidence of innocence. However, Death Penalty Action has also been highlighting the fact that Oklahoma set seven execution dates, not just one, and is working with local Oklahoma groups to oppose all executions in the state. DPA led protests outside the prison when John Grants's execution was botched several weeks ago.

Those traveling this week include Abraham Bonowitz and Scott Langley, co-founders of Death Penalty Action. Also present and available for comment:

Charles Keith, brother of Kevin Keith, who worked to get his brother off of Ohio's death row. Kevin Keith's death sentence was commuted to LWOP just 13 days before his 2010 execution date by then-Ohio Governor Strickland. Another brother was the victim in an unrelated unsolved homicide, so Charles is familiar with the struggles of families concerned with the issue from multiple perspectives. Charles and his family continue to work to fully exonerate and free Kevin Keith.

SueZann Bosler is the daughter of Rev. Billy Bosler, whom she witnessed being stabbed in an attack in their parsonage in 1986 before the killer turned his knife on her. SueZann survived the attack and has become a leading inspirational speaker on the healing power of forgiveness, and also the disparities of services provided to family members of murder victims in homicide cases.

"Regardless of one's feelings about the death penalty, no one can argue that government can be trusted to always get it right, or that capital punishment is an effective public policy," said Bonowitz. "We can be safe from people who have committed terrible crimes, and punish them severely, without executions. Indeed, that is exactly what we do in the vast majority of cases where execution is a possible punishment."

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